Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 NEA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 OMB-01

AID-05 DPW-01 ACDA-05 EB-07 /094 W

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O R 230630Z DEC 74 FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1314 INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

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DELIVER EA AND P OPENING OF BUSINESS MONDAY.

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, VS

SUBJECT: INTERFAITH GROUP CHARGE THAT US IS NOT LIVING UP TO

PARIS AGREEMENT

REF: SAIGON 15729

- 1. FOLLOWING MAY ASSIST DEPARTMENT IN COUNTERING CHARGES THAT OUR AID IS "FEEDING THE WAR" IN VIETNAM IN CONNECTION WITH DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN STATEMENT RECOMMENDED REFTEL.
- 2. QUOTE. IT IS ABSURD TO STATE THAT UNITED STATES ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IS THE CAUSE OF CONTINUING HOSTILITIES IN SOUTH VIETNAM. THOSE HOSTILITIES ARE CAUSED BY THE PRESENCE OF NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS IN SOUTH VIETNAM. THERE ARE NO SOUTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS IN NORTH VIETNAM. MOREOVER, NORTH VIETNAM IS NOT THREATENED BY THE UNITED STATES, BY SOUTH VIETNAM, NOR BY ANY OF ITS NEIGHBORS. NONETHELESS, NORTH VIETNAM CONTINUES TO INFILTRATE MASSIVE NUMBERS OF TROOPS, ARMS AND MUNITIONS TO SUPPORT ITS MILITARY EFFORTS TO CONQUER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOUTH VIETNAM. UNITED STATES ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, LIKE THAT FROM

JAPAN, FRANCE, WEST GERMANY AND OTHER COUNTRIES, PROVIDES BASIC SUPPORT TO SOUTH VIETNAM'S ECONOMY. RESOURCES HAVE TO BE PROVIDED, OF COURSE, FROM SOUTH VIETNAM'S ECONOMY FOR ITS DEFENSIVE MILITARY REQUIREMENTS TO WITHSTAND THE ONSLAUGHT OF NORTH VIETNAM'S MILITARY INCURSIONS INTO ITS TERRITORY. CONSEQUENTLY, AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FROM THE UNITED STATES OR OTHER COUNTRIES TO SOUTH VIETNAM CAN BE SAID IN A TECHNICAL ECONOMIC SENSE TO SUPPORT SOUTH VIETNAM'S ABILITY TO DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST NORTH VIETNAM. SIMILARLY, ANY MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES TO SOUTH VIETNAM CAN BE SAID IN THE SAME SENSE TO SUPPORT SOUTH VIETNAM'S ECONOMY. IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH MILITARY ASSISTANCE, SOUTH VIETNAM WOULD HAVE TO DRAW MORE HEAVILY FROM THE RESOURCES OF ITS OWN ECONOMY TO PROVIDE THE MILITARY MEANS TO DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST NORTH VIETNAM. IN THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES, RESOURCES NOW AVAILABLE TO ASSIST WAR REFUGEES, CHILDREN AND THE CIVILIAN POPULACE IN GENERAL WOULD HAVE TO BE REDUCED SIGNIFICANTLY. END QUOTE. MARTIN

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Message Attributes

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